

JUNE 14, 1965

STATINTL

CIA OPERATIONS REMAIN SECRET

(Mr. DENT (at the request of Mr. Boggs) was given permission to extend his remarks at this point in the Record and to include extraneous matter.)

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the following article, from the Washington Post of June 3, to the House for consideration. The article was written by Mr. Harry Ferguson and concerns the Central Intelligence Agency.

It is often distressing to me to hear severe criticism of the CIA by citizens—including Members of Congress—who have only limited knowledge of its functions and activities. How many times have we heard indignant protests about the CIA being an all too powerful, fourth branch of the U.S. Government? A recent publication, "The Invisible Government," pictures the CIA as some sort of power-hungry, aggressive, and irresponsible organization. For some strange reason, the CIA's most vocal critics seem to attack the nature of its secrecy. I wonder if these critics can imagine how effective an intelligence apparatus could be were it required to respond to ever ounce of criticism and skepticism. I daresay were that the case, we might as well close up shop.

Mr. Speaker, I am not among those Members privy to appraisal of the CIA's scope. I do know, however—as we all should know—that a congressional committee does exist to insure that the CIA does not exceed its bounds. I can appreciate, therefore, that there are those among us who are privy to such information and who have a great knowledge of the activities of this organization; and I might add that I have not heard protest from any of these Members about the CIA being irresponsible or power hungry or anything.

Mr. Speaker, from what I know of the CIA, I can honestly say that I heartily approve; and of what I do not know, I can hastily add that it is quit obviously none of my business. I am grateful and proud that we have men and women in our country who are willing to make sacrifices to provide us with information we desperately need for our own defense and the defense of all freemen. I am likewise grateful that the CIA stands above its critics and therefore protects the very secrets it needs to survive and to render effective service to our country.

The article follows:

[From the Washington Post, June 3, 1965]

CIA'S OPERATIONS REMAIN A SECRET TO ALL BUT A FEW

(By Harry Ferguson)

A story is going around that one day a top official of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) needed some information on the manager of a factory in the Soviet Union. He called for the files and, somewhat to his

surprise, found all possible information about the man, including the fact that his mistress had dyed her hair three times. Different color every time.

It could be true, for the CIA has information about Russia that would shock Moscow. Each month the CIA buys or otherwise obtains 200,000 pieces of literature from Russia, the European Communist bloc, and Red China. It has a translating computer that turns Russian into English at the rate of 30,000 words an hour. Nothing from Russia is too small to interest the CIA—railroad timetables, the pig population in the Ukraine, what movie is being shown in Kiev.

The CIA operates in a highly unorthodox fashion. It lists its number in the telephone book and everybody knows that its headquarters are at Langley, Va. But the CIA has plenty of secrets and keeps them well.

BUDGET KEPT SECRET

There are perhaps a dozen men in Washington who know how much the CIA spends annually, but the best guesses are between \$400 million and \$1 billion. No where in the Federal budget will you find any money allotted to the CIA.

Each year the CIA Director appears before small panels made up of senior members of the Senate and House Appropriations Committees. He tells them how much money he needs, but doesn't have to explain how he is going to spend it. After the Congressmen OK the expenditure, the money is broken up into small items and salted and hidden throughout the Federal budget. An item for 1,000 monkey wrenches in the Air Force budget could well be CIA money.

People who work for the CIA are divided into "overts" and "illegals." The overts work in open, keep regular office hours and the only restraint they are under is that they are forbidden to discuss the type of work they do. The illegals fan out across the world and operate in the full knowledge that if they are caught, they may forfeit their lives. One of the big battlegrounds of espionage is Berlin, and the West German Government estimates there are 12,000 Soviet intelligence agents there. Nobody has any precise figures on the CIA strength in Berlin, but it can be assumed the situation is well covered.

BECOMES A NEW MAN

The first thing that happens to a man when he becomes a CIA illegal is that he loses his identity. He gets a new name, a new birthplace, and a new family. If he is going to operate in Italy, he not only must learn to speak flawless Italian, but in the precise accent of the province where he will be working.

Then he is papered. He is equipped with every sort of document he could conceivably need in his new environment and he is taught how to manufacture new ones if the need arises.

The next thing is to arrange a drop, a place where the agent can leave information and be sure it will wind up in Langley, Va.

The CIA's enemies see it as a sort of anonymous branch of the U.S. Government that is going around meddling in the internal affairs of both friendly and unfriendly nations. It is accused of helping make a complete botch of the Bay of Pigs invasion in Cuba and the events leading up to the present crisis in South Vietnam. Some persons even profess to see a threat to our own Government from an organization maintaining a sort of private army and operating in secrecy.

Allen Dulles, former CIA Director, denied all this in a recent television interview. He said the CIA never had jumped into a situation without getting the consent of the President. He also defended the necessity for secrecy by pointing out that Russia and Red China were pushing their espionage battles strongly and that you had to fight fire with fire.